

Training Working Team Annual Report for FY02

Team Membership

There was some turnover on the Training Working Team (TWT) during FY02. Geoff Wilford was selected to replace Dan Francis as the FIREScope representative. Bernie Post, Colorado State Forest Service replaced Hunter Wistrand as the Aviation Committee Chair and a new Aviation Committee was selected. Wayne Cook, Intermountain Fire Sciences Lab replaced Tom Zimmerman as the Fire Behavior Committee Chair, although Tom will remain on the committee as a member.

In October, the NWCG approved the formation of the Leadership Committee under the Training Working Team. The Leadership Committee met for the first time in January 2002. Larry Sutton, BLM NIFC was selected to Chair this new Committee.

Specific Accomplishments

The TWT continues to meet annually with the geographic area training representatives and the IOS Working Team. These meetings continue to help us coordinate more effectively together. There are no plans to deviate from this schedule.

Leadership Committee accomplishments include seventy individual Fireline Leadership courses delivered around the country this past winter; over 1500 people were trained in leadership concepts/skills. In January, the Human Factors course was put in the Publications Management System and work began with the S-130 course revision group to incorporate Human Factors into basic firefighter training. In February work began on the Wildland Fire Leadership web site which will go live in September. Included on the web site will be a professional reading list, frequently asked questions and responses, tactical decision game/sand table exercise design and delivery guide and leadership development resource self development. This past Spring the following three courses entered the development stage to be evaluated and tested; Followership to Leadership, Advanced Incident Leadership and First Incident Leadership.

We are proud to announce that the original NWCG curriculum development cycle is complete. As per the Executive Summary signed by NWCG in 1992, there were 84 courses in the curriculum that were to be developed. We have completed those 84 and the curriculum has now grown to 94 courses.

The NWCG Development Unit continued this fiscal year with less than a full staff and a backlog of courses to complete. Eleven courses will be completed by the end of this fiscal year and will be available in the Publications Management System this fall, including S-216, Driving for Fire Service; S-258, Incident Communications Tech; S-400, Incident Commander; S-404, Safety Officer; S-420, Command & General Staff; S-450, Logistics Section Chief; S-460, Finance Section Chief; S-470, Air Support Group Supervisor; S-491, NFDRS; M-410, Facilitative Instructor; and J-158, Radio Operator Job Aid. There are seven courses nearing completion that will be carried forward into FY03, including S-215, Wildland Fire in the Urban Interface; S-110,

Basic Fire Suppression Orientation; S-130, Firefighter Training; S-212, Wildfire Power Saws; S-270, Basic Air Operations; S-271, Helicopter Crewmember; S-372, Helicopter Manager; S-445, Incident Training Specialist; FI-210, Wildland Fire Origin & Cause Determination; and M-480, Multi-Agency Coordinating Group. Several of these courses are being developed in conjunction with other working teams and the Office of Aircraft Services.

The development cycle was started for S-211, Portable Pumps & Water Use; S-230, Crew Boss; S-231, Engine Boss; S-336, Fire Suppression Tactics; S-378, Air Tactical Group Supervisor; S-390, Intro to Wildland Fire Beh Calcs; S-490, Advanced Wildland Fire Beh Calcs; RX-410, Smoke Management Techniques; and D-311, Initial Attack Dispatcher. These courses are scheduled to be completed by the end of FY03.

For further information on course status see the NWCG Development Unit web site under www.fire.blm.gov/training/main.html.

The National Park Service project leader was hired in June.

Unfilled positions remaining in the Development Unit include the Forest Service project leader and editorial assistant and the Fish & Wildlife Service editorial assistant. These positions were agreed to by NWCG in February 2001. The lack of personnel in these positions continues to severely hamper the ability of the Training Unit to meet its development and revision goals. The TWT again appeals to the NWCG to push for these positions to be filled.